

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a machine that accepts payment media and that requires a user login operation, the method comprising:
  - receiving the payment media in an input receptacle of the machine;
  - starting processing of the payment media as soon as the payment media has been received in the input receptacle;
  - storing the payment media received in the input receptacle in a secure device until the user login operation is completed; and
  - performing the user login operation; wherein:
    - the step of performing the user login operation can be done ~~before~~, during and after the step of processing the payment media and is initiated by the user once for each time the payment media is received in the input receptacle, and
    - the processing of the payment media comprises validating and counting the payment media.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 2~~, claim 1, wherein the secure device comprises one or more of a roll store in the machine, an escrow device in the machine, or a secure compartment in the machine.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user login operation is performed at the machine, is performed from a location electronically coupled to the machine over a local communication network or is performed from a location electronically coupled to the machine over a wide area communication network.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the machine is located in a retail store, and the user is a cashier of the retail store, a teller or an individual not skilled in the operation of payment media handling devices, wherein the retail store includes at least one of:

\_\_\_\_\_ a single store,

\_\_\_\_\_ multiple stores,

\_\_\_\_\_ at least one third party concession stand located within the at least one single store and

\_\_\_\_\_ a plurality of stores located within a mall.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein users of the machine are employees from plural companies and the machine is located to allow access by the users.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 8~~claim 1, wherein the processing of the payment media further includes ~~at least one of counting the payment media,~~ determining a denomination of the payment ~~media and authenticating the payment media.~~

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the payment media is one or more of currency notes, currency coins and currency checks.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the payment media is one or more of currency notes, currency ~~coins, currency vouchers~~coins and currency checks.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the machine ~~is capable of dispensing~~dispenses payment media previously ~~accepted~~received into the machine.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing of the payment media is cancelled following a plurality of failures of the user login operation.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein, following the plurality of failures of the user login operation, the machine returns to the user the same payment media that was received into the input receptacle by the user.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the same payment media stored in the ~~eserow device~~ secure device is returned to the user following an unsuccessful login operation.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising notifying the user that the payment media processing has been ~~successfully~~ completed upon occurrence of a successful user login operation and the ~~successful~~ completion of the processing.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising storing the payment media in the machine upon a determination of a ~~successful~~ the successful user login operation and the ~~successful~~ completion of the processing.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user login operation is performed using a user interface of the machine.

19.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage medium that provides instructions for controlling a machine that accepts payment media and that requires a user login operation, the instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform operations comprising:

receiving the payment media in an input receptacle of the machine;

starting processing of the payment media as soon as the payment media has been received in the input receptacle;

storing the payment media received in the input receptacle in a secure device until the user login operation is completed; and

performing the user login operation when initiated by a user; wherein

the step of performing the user login operation can be done ~~before, during and~~ after the step of processing the payment media and is initiated by the user once for each time the payment media is received in the input receptacle, and

the processing of the payment media comprises validating and counting the payment media.

24.-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A machine that accepts payment media and that requires a user login operation, the machine comprising:

an input receptacle into which a user of the machine places the payment media;

a user interface through which the user of the machine performs and initiates a user login operation;

a secure device that stores the payment media placed in the input receptacle until the user login operation is completed; and

a controller that:

starts processing of the payment media as soon as the payment media has been received in the input receptacle and

performs the user login operation ~~either before, during and once either~~ during or after processing the payment media each time the payment media has been received in the input receptacle;

wherein the processing of the payment media comprises validating and counting the payment media.

36.-50. (Canceled)